

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Bukhovo Uranium Deposits/Dropping of Anti-Communist
Leaflets/Air Raid Shelter at Kremikovtsi/Intelligence
Sources of Uranium/Underground Airfield at Kumanitsa

50X1-HUM

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1. "The following information dates up to the end of July 1953.

Bukhovo Uranium Deposits

2. "There are uranium deposits approximately two km away from the village of Bukhovo, in the Stara Planina mountains. Bukhovo is about 22 km from Sofia along the Sofia-Makotsevo-Burgas railway line. There is no railway station at Bukhovo, the nearest one being the station at Isperik, about three km from Bukhovo.
3. "The Bukhovo zone, as well as the nearby village of Seslevtsi [not in NIS Gazeteer/ is restricted for outside Bulgarians and foreigners. Inhabitants of Bukhovo and Seslevtsi are not allowed to leave the restricted zone, which is surrounded by both Soviet and Bulgarian troops, without first obtaining a special permit from the local authorities. A similar permit is necessary for visitors coming to the area. There are eight observation posts scattered in an area around the prohibited zone. All roads leading to Bukhovo are under a very careful check. There are road blocks on these roads. On the road from the Yana railway station to Bukhovo village, the first road block is near the mill on the left-hand side.

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4. The uranium deposits are under Soviet control and management. Employees work under the direct supervision of Soviet technicians. [redacted] work goes on day and night, on a three eight-hour shift basis. There are approximately 2 thousand workers. Only leading members of the personnel - engineers, technicians - are Soviets, while the miners and common laborers are Anti-Bukhovo inhabitants or residents of Buzov. Wages are very high compared to those of other State institutions: 1950-1960 leva month. Permits for Bulgarian workers employed at the uranium deposits are issued by the MVD of Sofia.

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5. [redacted] Night and day special buses owned by the uranium enterprise take these specialized workers to and from Sofia. [redacted]

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Air Raid Shelter

11. During World War II, the Bulgarian government and the German Wehrmacht constructed an air raid shelter to be used only for government members and high cabinet officials. This shelter has been entered. Four exits have been found, one of which joins the main entrance to a small mountain river which runs through the village. Remodeling of the underground shelter

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-3-

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was undertaken and completed by July 1952. It was equipped with beds and all sorts of facilities. Bulgarian troops are stationed nearby. Everybody in the village realizes that the shelter will be used for the Communist Cabinet in the case of another war.

Potential Sources of Uranium

12. "Soviet technicians are undertaking research in the mountains surrounding Seslavtsi for the purpose of locating uranium deposits. Similar research is taking place at Lokorsko, Voinegovtsi and Fleshnitsa [Fleschnitz, Flesnica], as well as at Zhelyava. Lokorsko, Voinegovtsi and Zhelyava are not in NIS Gazeteer for Bulgaria."

Underground Airfield at Kumaritsa

13. [redacted] there is an underground airfield at Kumaritsa. 50X1-HUM
Everybody in Sofia knows about it.
14. "Near the Yana railway station is a lacquer-nitrocellulose factory.
15. "There is a rubber plant in the vicinity of Svetovrachene." 50X1-HUM

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied